

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7846

BILL NUMBER: HB 2126

DATE PREPARED: Feb 9, 2001

BILL AMENDED: Feb 8, 2001

SUBJECT: Elementary school social workers.

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FUNDS AFFECTED: X

**GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL**

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: (Amended) This bill establishes the Elementary School Social Workers and School Psychologists Program and Fund (the Program and Fund). It creates the Fund, to be administered by the Department of Education (the Department), from which the Department may distribute grants to school corporations to place social workers and school psychologists in elementary schools to provide services for students and their families.

Effective Date: July 1, 2001.

Explanation of State Expenditures: The Department could experience an indeterminable increase in administrative expenses regarding the following items: 1) the development and distribution of grant forms; 2) additional staff; and 3) additional computer equipment. In accordance with the provisions of this bill, the Department would be required to determine grant amounts for eligible school corporations, and maintain school corporation findings regarding the impact of the Program on each participating school corporation.

The Fund would consist of monies from a combination of the following sources: 1) gifts to the Fund; 2) appropriations by the General Assembly; and 3) grants (including grants from private entities). Upon review of a grant application, the Department would be allowed to award grants to eligible school corporations subject to the availability monies in the Fund.

The funds and resources required above could be supplied through a variety of sources, including the following: 1) existing staff and resources not currently being used to capacity; 2) existing staff and resources currently being used in another program; 3) authorized, but vacant, staff positions, including those positions that would need to be reclassified; 4) funds that, otherwise, would be reverted; or (5) new appropriations.

This bill does not make an appropriation. Ultimately, the source of funds and resources required to satisfy the requirements of this bill would depend upon legislative and administrative actions.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues: (Revised) A school corporation would be able to apply for and receive a grant based on the demonstrated need for social service workers and school psychologists within its elementary schools. The specific effects of this bill would vary from school corporation to school corporation, and would depend upon local action.

Background- For the 2000 school year, approximately 260 social workers and approximately 400 school psychologists were employed within Indiana's 294 school corporations.

State Agencies Affected: Department of Education.

Local Agencies Affected: School Corporations.

Information Sources: DOE ORACLE Data Tables.